

I. Amendments

A. In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

Please cancel claim 19, amend claims 4, 8 and 16, and add new claims 25-30 as follows:

1. (previously cancelled).
2. (previously cancelled).
3. (previously cancelled).
4. (currently amended) A pointing device, comprising:
a surface having a puck field of motion defined thereon and a first magnet operatively associated therewith;
a moveable puck comprising an upper surface, a lower surface, at least one user sensor, a puck electrode attached thereto or housed therein, and a second magnet attached thereto or housed therein, the upper surface being configured to deflect in a downward direction towards the lower surface in response to a user applying a first or second downward force thereto, the at least one user sensor being disposed between the upper surface and the lower surface and configured to generate a first output signal when the upper surface is

deflected downwardly by the user into a first position corresponding to the first downward force, and to generate a second output signal when the upper surface is deflected by the user into a second position corresponding to the second downward force~~that detects an interaction between a user and said puck, the said puck being confined to move within the said puck field of motion, wherein said the user sensor being configured to~~ detects a change in capacitance associated with the an~~the~~ puck electrode on said puck;

a position detector configured to measure that measures the position of the said puck in the said puck field of motion, wherein said the position detector comprises comprising surface electrodes disposed on or near said the surface and the a-puck electrode that moves with said puck; wherein said the position detector further being configured to measure measures the capacitance between selected ones of the said electrodes and thereby permit the position of the puck in respect of the surface to be determined;

a restoring mechanism configured to return that returns said the puck to a predetermined area in the said puck field of motion, wherein said the restoring mechanism comprises comprising the a-first magnet and the second magnet on said puck and a second magnet in said puck field of motion.

5. (previously cancelled).

6. (previously cancelled).

7. (previously cancelled).

8. (currently amended) A pointing device, comprising:

a surface having a puck field of motion defined thereon;

a moveable puck comprising an upper surface, a lower surface, at least one user sensor, and a puck electrode attached thereto or housed therein, the upper surface being configured to deflect in a downward direction towards the lower surface in response to a user applying a first or second downward force thereto, the at least one user sensor being disposed between the upper surface and the lower surface and configured to generate a first output signal when the upper surface is deflected downwardly by the user into a first position corresponding to the first downward force, and to generate a second output signal when the upper surface is deflected by the user into a second position corresponding to the second downward force, the puck being confined to move within the puck field of motion. —a moveable puck comprising a user sensor that detects an interaction between a user and said puck, said puck being confined to move within said puck field of motion; and

— a position detector that measures the position of said puck in said puck field of motion,

— wherein said user sensor detects a change in capacitance associated with an electrode on said puck.

— a position detector configured to measure the position of the puck in the puck field of motion, the position detector comprising surface electrodes disposed on or near the surface and the puck electrode, the position detector further being configured to measure the capacitance between selected ones of the electrodes and thereby permit the position of the puck in respect of the surface to be determined.

9. (previously cancelled).

10. (previously cancelled).

11. (previously cancelled).

12. (previously cancelled).

13. (previously cancelled).

14. (previously cancelled).

15. (previously cancelled).

16. (currently amended) A pointing device, comprising:

a surface having a puck field of motion defined thereon and a first magnet operatively associated therewith;;

a moveable puck comprising an upper surface, a lower surface, at least one user sensor, a puck electrode attached thereto or housed therein, and a second magnet attached thereto or housed therein, the upper surface being configured to deflect in a downward direction towards the lower surface in response to a user applying a first or second downward force thereto, the at least one user sensor being disposed between the upper surface and the lower surface and configured to generate a first output signal when the upper surface is deflected downwardly by the user into a first position corresponding to the first downward force, and to generate a second output signal when the upper surface is deflected by the user into a second position corresponding to the second downward force, the puck being confined to move within the puck field of motion, comprising a user sensor that detects an interaction between a user and said puck, said puck being confined to move within said puck field of motion; and

a position detector configured to measure that measures the position of the said puck in the said puck field of motion, wherein said the position detector comprising comprises surface electrodes disposed on or near on said the surface and the a puck electrode that moves with said puck, and wherein said the position detector further being configured to measure measures the respective amounts of electrical current flowing between selected ones of said electrodes to thereby permit the position of the puck in respect of the surface to be determined.

17. (previously cancelled).

18. (previously cancelled).

19. (cancelled)

20. (previously cancelled).

21. (previously cancelled).

22. (previously cancelled).

23. (previously cancelled).

24. (previously cancelled).

25. (new) The pointing device of claim 4, wherein the first output signal is configured to actuate tracking of a cursor on a display corresponding to changes in the position of the puck on the surface.

26. (new) The pointing device of claim 4, wherein the second output signal is configured to implement a "click" function in a host apparatus.
27. (new) The pointing device of claim 8, wherein the first output signal is configured to actuate tracking of a cursor on a display corresponding to changes in the position of the puck on the surface.
28. (new) The pointing device of claim 8, wherein the second output signal is configured to implement a "click" function in a host apparatus.
29. (new) The pointing device of claim 16, wherein the first output signal is configured to actuate tracking of a cursor on a display corresponding to changes in the position of the puck on the surface.
30. (new) The pointing device of claim 16, wherein the second output signal is configured to implement a "click" function in a host apparatus.